



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/995,434	11/27/2001	Tanay Karnik	884.577US1	9789

7590

09/10/2003

Schwegman, Lundberg, Woessner & Kluth, P.A.  
P.O. Box 2938  
Minneapolis, MN 55402

EXAMINER

NASRI, JAVAID H

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2839

DATE MAILED: 09/10/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/995,434

Applicant(s)

KARNIK ET AL.

Examiner

Javaid Nasri

Art Unit

2839

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(e). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 June 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 9,10,12,13 and 16-18 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,4-8,11,14,15,19,20,22 and 23 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 3 and 21 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 27 November 2001 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Election/Restrictions***

1. Claims 9, 10, 12, 13 and 16-18 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b), as being drawn to a nonelected claims, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Applicant timely traversed the restriction (election) requirement in Paper No. 3.

### ***Drawings***

2. The drawings are objected to because
- a) the lines are not uniformly thick.
  - b) lettering is not standard.

A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1, 2, 4-8, 11, 14, 15, 19, 20, 22 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Sass et al.

Art Unit: 2839

Sass et al discloses (see figure 1), a first plurality of spaced apart optical signal media (terminations) (18) and a first plurality of electrical signal conductors (terminations) (14), wherein at least one of the first plurality of electrical signal conductors (terminations) is disposed between a selected first one and a selected second one of the first plurality of spaced apart optical signal media (terminations), an electrically conductive shield (22) surrounding the first plurality of spaced apart optical signal media and the first plurality of electrical signal conductors and spaced apart from the first plurality of electrical signal conductors, each one of the first plurality of optical (electrical) signal media has a longitudinal axis and a cross-sectional area, the longitudinal axis of each one of the first plurality of optical (electrical) signal media lies substantially parallel to the longitudinal axis of every other one of the first plurality of optical (electrical) signal media and the cross-sectional area of each one of the first plurality of optical (electrical) signal media lies within a first (second ) substantially circular area, a diameter of the second circular area is less than a diameter of the first circular area (see marked figure 1, attached), a second plurality of spaced apart optical (electrical) signal terminations, (see marked figure 3, attached), a signaling medium, a first plurality of electrical signal conductors, one of the first plurality of electrical signal terminations is disposed between a selected first one and a selected second one of the first plurality of spaced apart optical signal, between in the direction of arrows A1 and A2 (see marked figure 3, attached), one of the second plurality of electrical signal terminations is disposed between a selected first one and a selected second one of the second plurality of spaced apart optical signal, between in the direction of arrows A3 and A4 (see marked figure 3, attached).

Note: For claims 11 and 15, it is inherent to have a connector.

Art Unit: 2839

For claim 19, it is inherent to have a circuit boards.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

5. one of the first plurality of electrical signal terminations is disposed between a selected first one and a selected second one of the first plurality of spaced apart optical signal, between in the direction of arrows A1 and A2 (see marked figure 3, attached), Claims 3 and 21 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

**REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

6. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The primary reason for allowance of the claims is the inclusion of the limitation,

- a) having a second electrically conductive shield surrounding the second plurality of spaced apart optical signal media and the second plurality of electrical signal conductors, in combination with other limitations in the claim which is not found in the prior art reference of record.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Art Unit: 2839

***Contact***

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Javaid Nasri whose telephone number is 703 308 5876. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lynn Feild can be reached on 703 308 2710. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703 308 0956.

**Any correspondence to this action may be mailed to:**

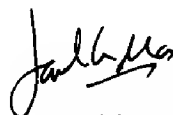
**Commissioner for Patents  
Post Office Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

For additional information regarding this new address, which was effective May 1, 2003, see *Correspondence with the United States Patent and Trademark Office, 68 Fed. Reg. 14332 (March 25, 2003)*.

**Or faxed to:** 703-308-7722 or 308-7724 (informal or draft communications should be clearly labeled "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

**Hand-delivered responses should be brought to:**

**Crystal Plaza 4, Fourth Floor (receptionist)  
2201 South Clark Place, Arlington, Virginia**



Javaid Nasri

Application/Control Number: 09/995,434

Page 6

Art Unit: 2839

Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2839

JN

jhn

August 29, 2003